



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE
REQUESTS RENEWAL OF FACILITY PERMIT
FOR EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL RANGE
Vandenberg AFB, California



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: March 12 through April 25, 2008

WHAT'S BEING PROPOSED? – The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites you to comment on a proposed Hazardous Waste Facility Permit renewal for the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Range (EOD Range) at Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB). VAFB is a military and aerospace facility located on California's central coast, three miles north of Lompoc in Santa Barbara County.

The proposed permit renewal allows VAFB to continue to operate the existing EOD Range located on the Air Force Base property. The EOD Range receives onsite unexploded propellant, explosive, and pyrotechnic materials. The draft permit and supporting documents define the permitted activities at the VAFB Hazardous Waste Facility under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The EOD Range is a permitted Hazardous Waste Facility under DTSC's oversight.

In addition to the draft Permit, DTSC also proposes to issue a Negative Declaration under California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) which is available for public comment and review.

DTSC regulates the generation, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste in California. A permit enables DTSC to effectively regulate the hazardous waste management activities at facilities. Permits are developed after DTSC's detailed technical review, and are intended to ensure that the facility operates in a manner that protects human health and the environment.

FACILITY BACKGROUND – VAFB covers more than 98,400 acres (154 square miles), along 35 miles of Santa Barbara County coastline. The first missile was launched from VAFB in December 1958. Since then, more than 1,700 intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and polar-orbiting satellites have been launched from VAFB. Currently, VAFB is the only U.S. military installation that actively launches ICBMs and polar-orbiting satellites. As a result of its operations, the base has military munitions waste materials including obsolete ordnance, explosive waste from training operations, materials with an expired shelf life, or explosive waste discovered on the base.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT – NEGATIVE DECLARATION – DTSC evaluated any possible environmental impacts associated with the proposed construction and operation of this facility, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. DTSC has prepared a draft Negative Declaration which states that the hazardous waste facility would not have significant impacts to human health and the environment. The findings are available for public review and comment in the information repositories.

WHY THIS NOTICE? – The purpose of this notice is to provide you with the opportunity to learn more about the draft Permit and draft Negative Declaration and to provide comments to DTSC, within forty-five (45) days of this notice.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE? – Your participation is encouraged. Comments concerning the draft Permit and Negative Declaration may be submitted in writing to Mr. Mike Eshaghian, DTSC Project Manager, 9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, 91311 or e-mail comments to: Meshaghia@dtsc.ca.gov. All mailed comments must be **postmarked by April 25, 2008** and e-mailed comments must be **received no later than 5 PM** on the same date.

The **Public Meeting** for the Vandenberg Air Force Base will begin at **6 p.m.** on **April 10, 2008**, at the Lompoc Council Chamber, 100 Civic Center Plaza in Lompoc.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION? – A copy of the draft Permit and draft Negative Declaration is available for review in the Information Repositories located at Lompoc Public Library, 501 E. North Avenue and Vandenberg Village Library, 3755 Constellation Road in Lompoc, California 93436, and Vandenberg Air Force Base Library (for on-base staff), Building 10343 Community Loop in Vandenberg AFB, CA 93437 and DTSC Regional Records Room, 9211 Oakdale Avenue in Chatsworth, CA 91311.

CONTACT: – If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Mr. Mike Eshaghian, DTSC Project Manager, at (818) 717-6679 or by e-mail to Meshaghia@dtsc.ca.gov. For public participation activities, please contact Ms. Kim Rhodes, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (916) 255-3651 or by e-mail to Krhodes1@dtsc.ca.gov. Members of the media should contact Ms. Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer, at (818) 717-6573 or by e-mail to Jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov.